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Environment Department Grants \$95,000 for Solid Waste Improvements in Western New Mexico

(Santa Fe, NM) — The New Mexico Environment Department's (NMED) today announced the completion of \$95,000 in grant agreements for solid waste system improvements in Western New Mexico. The grants were appropriated to NMED by the state legislature from the Severance Tax Bond fund.

These grants to the Northwestern New Mexico Regional Solid Waste Authority (NWNMRSWA) will allow the entity to purchase two new transport trucks. NWNMRSWA serves 150,000 people in McKinley and Cibola Counties as well as portions of the Navajo Nation in eastern Arizona.

"We disposed of over 100,000 tons of trash last year," said J.R. Murrietta, executive director of the NWNMRSWA. "When garbage piles up, it can become a health concern and a public nuisance. These new trucks will help us keep that from happening."

"The Environment Department is working to improve the lives of everyone in the state," said Environment Secretary Ron Curry. "From the biggest city to the smallest town, we insure that the health of the environment and the health of our citizens is protected. These issues are key parts of Governor Richardson's plan to build a better New Mexico."

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